

Frequently Asked Questions October 2017

A Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Prescriber Report is a quarterly snapshot of a practitioner's prescribing practices of Sch. II-V medications and Gabapentin over a six month period. In addition to the Metrics Explanation document that accompanies the report, here are some Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to help you make the most of the information that is available.

What is a “Prescriber Report”?

The Department of Public Health (Department) is required by [statute](#) to “determine the mean and median quantity and volume of prescriptions for opiates contained in Schedules II and III” in comparison to other prescribers within their specialty. The first report, referred to as a “Provider Trend Notification,” was sent via encrypted email to each prescriber on March 1, 2017 and covered the 2016 calendar year. Based on feedback from stakeholders, we have expanded the report in an effort to provide more regular and more useful information to practitioners.

Who will receive a Prescriber Report?

An individual prescriber who has prescribed at least one Schedule II and III opioid in the six month period covered by the report will receive a Prescriber Report.

How will I receive the Report?

The Report will be posted to your MassPAT dashboard as a downloadable PDF (see example below). In addition, you will be notified by email that your report has been posted. Please check to see if the email address you have listed in your MassPAT profile is correct.

The screenshot displays the 'PMP AWARE - Demo' web application. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Data, RxSearch, Insight, Admin, Settings, User Profile, and Help. A secondary bar contains links for RxSearch, Patient Search, Requests History, Requests Processing, MyRx, Prescriber Report (highlighted), and Patient Alerts. The main content area is titled 'Prescriber Report' and contains the following text: 'The following are your personalized PMP Prescriber Reports which provide you with a snapshot of your prescribing of covered substances for the last four quarters.' Below this, a section titled 'Most Recent Prescriber Report' features a 'Download PDF' button and the text 'Fourth Quarter Report Year 2016'. A link to 'Metrics Explanation (PDF)' is provided with the text 'The following document explains the metrics behind the report:'. A final section titled 'Previous Prescriber Reports' lists three links: 'Third Quarter Report Year 2016 (PDF)', 'Second Quarter Report Year 2016 (PDF)', and 'First Quarter Report Year 2016 (PDF)'. The top right corner of the interface shows the address '10401 Linn Station Road, Suite 200, Louisville, KY 40223' and the phone number '1-866-Appriss'.

How often will I receive the Report?

Beginning in October of 2017, you will be receiving the report on a **quarterly basis. Oct., Jan., April, July.** Each report will look back six months. For example, the Oct. report will look back at the six month period April 1-September 30.

Is the Prescriber Report confidential?

Yes, the Prescriber Report is confidential. It is intended to provide you, the practitioner, with information to support your efforts to deliver quality care to your patients.

What type of information is included on the Prescriber Report?

A Metrics Explanation document entitled “Specific Measures for PDMP Prescriber Reports for the MA Prescription Monitoring Program” will be attached to the Prescriber Report email, and can be downloaded on the Prescriber Report page in your MassPAT account.

How did you determine my specialty?

Specialty information was obtained from the Massachusetts Prescription Awareness Tool (MassPAT). As part of registration in MassPAT, providers self-reported their role (e.g., dentist, physician, or pharmacist) and specialty.

What if I have multiple Healthcare Specialties selected?

The Prescriber Report will compare your prescribing activity against other prescribers who share the same primary Healthcare Specialty. On the My Profile page, your primary Healthcare Specialty is designated by a crown icon in the upper left.

How do I change my Healthcare Specialty if it appears to be incorrect?

Within the MassPAT site, click User Profile, then click My Profile. You will find the option to change your Healthcare Specialty on this page.

How can I view a list of my prescriptions that were included in my Prescriber Report?

Within the MassPAT site, click RxSearch, then click MyRx. Enter the date range April 1st 2017 to September 30th 2017, and select the DEA number associated with your Prescriber Report. This will allow you to see a full list of prescriptions that were included within the Prescriber Report metrics. Note that the prescriptions in your “MyRx” report includes all Schedule II-V controlled medications and Gabapentin, which is a Schedule VI medication. Some of these drug categories are not part of the prescriber report.

I am not being credited for searches I know I have conducted. Why is the reported number of my searches so low?

One common user error is to review your patient's prescription history using the "Requests History" (Figure 1) tab or by clicking the patient's name from your dashboard (Figure 2) without hitting the **REFRESH** button. If you do not hit **REFRESH** the prescription data will be unchanged from the last time you viewed this report (i.e., you will not be viewing the most current prescription history) and you will not be credited with a new search. In a November 2017 enhancement of MassPAT, the "Refresh" button will be moved from the bottom of the page, where it is often missed, to a position adjacent to the patient's name.

Figure 1

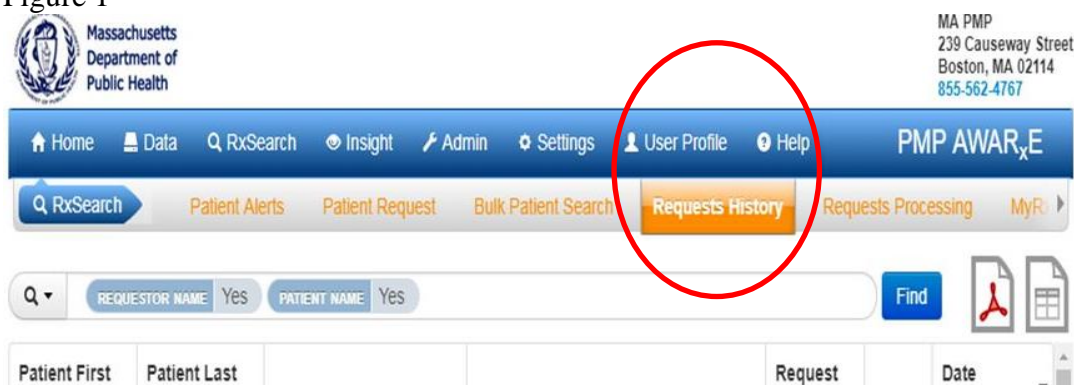
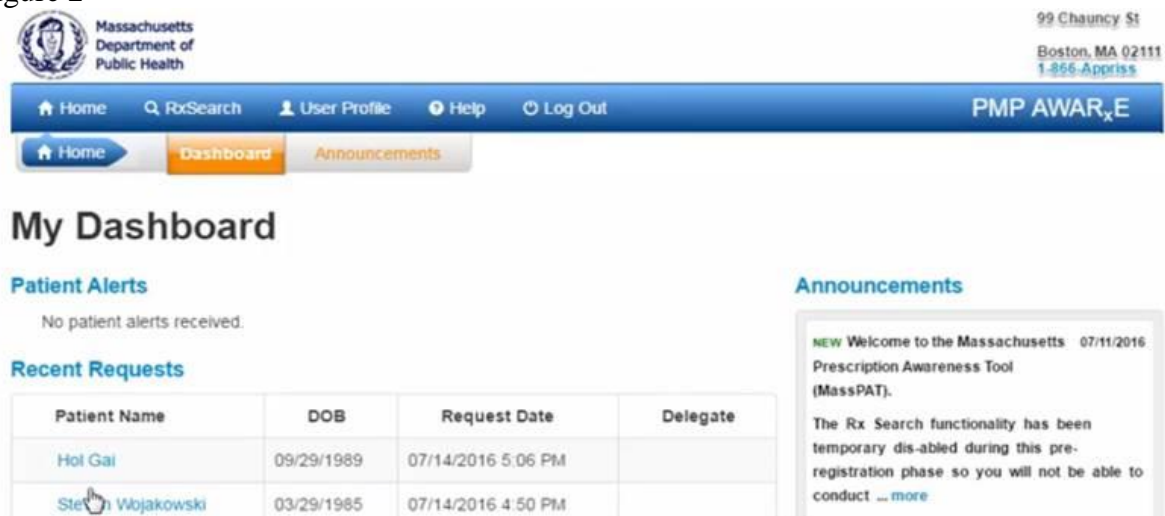


Figure 2



I have delegates conducting searches of all my patients. Why are these searches not credited in my delegate search count?

Delegates may conduct searches on behalf of multiple prescribers in a practice or facility. However, the terms and conditions state that the delegate **MUST** choose from the drop

down list the specific prescriber on whose behalf he/she is conducting a search. If a delegate chooses one prescriber for all patient searches conducted that day, that one prescriber will be given credit for utilizing MassPAT. To ensure that you receive credit for patient searches, please instruct your delegate to choose you as the prescriber when conducting searches on your patients.

What if I believe that there is an error on my MyRx prescription history?

If you believe that one or more of these prescriptions are incorrect, you may contact the dispensing pharmacy for additional details about the prescription in question. If you believe that there may be fraudulent activity associated with your DEA, please contact the Prescription Monitoring Program at mapmp.dph@state.ma.us or 617-753-7310.

If I have questions who should I contact?

If you have any questions regarding the Notification, please contact the Prescription Monitoring Program at mapmp.dph@state.ma.us or 617-753-7310.